

showered on him, whether from interested or disinterested motives. He had a few intimate friends among a certain set of young men in London who, having interests in common, grouped themselves together, and Grantley was usually the central figure.

Above the average height, and slightly stooped, he was of strong and supple build. His features were long and his grey eyes stern and rather sad when in repose.

"I hear Neil Everett has won his election," continued the speaker.

"How pleased Lady Frost will be!" replied Grantley, pouring out his tea, which the waiter had just set down beside him.

"Isn't Bertie a wonder?" said Hamilton Fitzmaurice, as he looked contemplatively at his empty glass in an effort to determine the advisability of still another whiskey and soda. "If he possibly can he always says the pleasant thing. Now, when I was told Neil had won his election, I almost fainted, and